

REMARKS


In the December 2, 2004 Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, and 7, 9-24, and 26-32 stand rejected in view of prior art. The Office Action also indicates that claims 8 and 25 contain allowable subject matters. No other objections or rejections are made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the December 2, 2004 Office Action, Applicants cancel claims 1-32 and add new claims 33-53, with claims 33 and 43 being independent claims. This Amendment is filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR §1.114. As set forth in 37 CFR §1.114(d), this filing of RCE is also a request to withdraw the appeal for which the Notice of Appeal was filed on April 21, 2005. Entrance of the Amendment presented above is respectfully requested.

Prompt reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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